

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

September 20, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Ben Babin, Jerry Thibeau, David Hoover, Lionel Bailey, Willie George Lee, Terry Louque, Anthony "Tony" Rouchon, Don Thompson

MEMBERS ABSENT: James "Jimmy" Little, Larry Thomas, Kenneth "Wade" Welborn
Vacant Seat(s) EBR Parish and St. Helena Parish

ALSO PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Babin.
2. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None
4. Hunting Lease "Troyland" – Sealed Bids: Pat Theophilus bid \$4.25/acre, Troy Furr \$1.00/acre. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Hoover to authorize the \$4.25/acre bid subject to "right of first refusal" by Troy Furr.
5. Minutes
The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Hoover to approve the July and August 2016 regular meeting minutes as presented.
6. Financial Statement Report
Hoover presented to the Board the July and August 2016 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Rouchon to approve the June 2016 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.
7. Report by Executive Director
 - Status of Comite River Diversion Canal: Rietschier stated that Federal funding is needed to build two bridges. The Amite River Basin Commission and DOTD through Capital Outlay funding are ready to move forward with utility relocation as soon as the USACE announces they are ready to build the two bridges.
 - Watermarks: Engaged four surveyors from town: SJB Group, Stantec, T. Baker Smith and Forte Tablada. Approximately 250 watermarks obtained through a cost of \$127,000 as of last week. The ARBC is coordinating with the US Geological Survey (who is surveying HWMs on behalf of FEMA) and the US Corps of Engineers (who is collecting some HWM data) to ensure comprehensive surveying of HWMs throughout the Amite River Basin. This data will be used in a basin wide Floodplain Management Plan.
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Bailey, second by Lee to ratify the agreements with T. Baker Smith LLC from \$20,000 to \$22,500 instead, Forte & Tablada and to amend the agreement with SJB Group LLC.
 - DOTD Report: DOTD is continuing to work with utilities along Hwy. 61 so that when funding comes to start the bridges they will be able to start the relocations.
8. ARBC Legal Counsel: Bankston provided a hand-out of Land Acquisition showing property acquired on the behalf of and by ARBC since the year 2002, properties in the process of being acquired, Mitigation, Construction, and Agreement(s) updates.
9. Old Business: The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Thibeau not to pursue property rental(s).
10. New Business:
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Hoover to pay the cost share of Tract 46 at \$761,065 and Tract 42 at \$228,662.
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover and Lee to add to the agenda an item "Access Agreement to Florida Pipeline".
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon and Bailey to approve the "Access Agreement to Florida Pipeline".
11. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon, second by Hoover to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

/s/ Ben Babin
Ben Babin, ARBC President
Date: October 18, 2016

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau
Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary